

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application.

The drawings have been objected to for several informalities. With respect to the “float” recited in the specification and claim 6, a float 116 has been added to Fig. 4. The addition of the float to Fig. 4 is supported in the specification on page 8, lines 1-5. In addition, reference characters 8 and 108 have been added to the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added to the figures.

The specification has been objected to for several informalities. The specification has been amended to correct the informalities cited in the office action. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added to the specification.

Claims 2, 4 and 7 have been objected to for several informalities. The claims have been amended to correct the informalities cited in the specification.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 7 have been amended to remove the indefinite language cited in the office action.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,829,321 to Domenico. Applicant will argue the inapplicability of this rejection to the amended claims.

Independent claim 1 recites, among other features, a safety knife comprising a handle, a base arm, an extension arm, and a cutting device, wherein “a longitudinal direction of the base arm is angled in relation to a longitudinal direction of the handle.” Domenico discloses a safety knife. However, the corresponding base arm and handle in Domenico are substantially situated in the same longitudinal direction. Thus, the base

arm and the handle are not angled relative to each other as is claimed in claim 1. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5 are not anticipated by Domenico for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Domenico in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,640,445 to Crawford. It is respectfully submitted that Crawford does not overcome the deficiencies of Domenico as described above. Thus, dependent claim 6 is allowable over Domenico and Crawford.

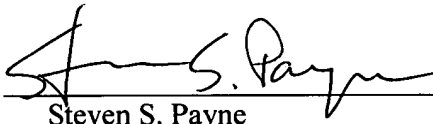
Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,673,687 to Phillips et al. Applicant will argue the inapplicability of this rejection to the amended claim 7.

Claim 7 recites, among other features, a safety knife comprising a handle, a base arm, an extension arm, and a cutting device, wherein the “cutting arrangement comprises two cutting elements arranged in said opening between said base arm and said extension arm, and wherein said two cutting elements form substantially a V-shape”. Phillips et al. discloses a safety knife 10. However, the cutting device 38 only comprises a single cutting element. Thus, Phillips et al. does not disclose the cutting arrangement of the present invention which has two cutting elements. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claim 7 is not anticipated by Phillips et al.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of same is earnestly solicited. If the examiner thinks that that a telephone conference would be beneficial, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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